(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to improve the plight of animals while they are on transit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) To imporve the plight of animals while they are on transit. Government has made concerted and coordinated efforts, with involvement of State Government, for ensuring strict compliance of the provisions under the Prevention of Cruelty Act, 1960.

Rise in duty drawback

63. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have recently revised the rates of duty drawback on several items;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are aware that the cut in drawback rates for woven and knitted garments would have dampening effect on the export of these items which will receive a severe set back; and

(d) if so, the corrective steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) :

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The duty drawback rates in respect of various export products are revised annually. While revising these rates, the budgetary changes effected in the duties of Customs and Central Excise suffered on the inputs used in the manufacture of the export goods are duly reflected in the rates. These details are available in the Duty Drawback Table, 2002-2003, notified by the Ministry of Finance *vide* Notification No. 33/2002-Cus. (N.T.) dated 29-5-2002.

(c) and (d) Like other commodities, the drawback rates of woven and knitted garments have been revised in consonance with the reduction in duties in respect of various inputs, effected in the Union Budget, 2002-2003. The duty Drawback Scheme provides neutralisation of input stage duties. Thus, any reduction in the input stage duties enables the exporters to procure raw materials at a cheaper cost for the whole year. As there is less burden of taxes, the Government is required to provide lower neutralisation of such taxes. Therefore, the necessary cut in the drawback rates should not have any dampening effect on exports. Hence, no corrective steps are warranted in this regard.

Anti-dumping duty on PET products

64. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 12th June, 2002 captioned "US slaps anti-dumping duty on Indian PET products";

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure that the proposed move does not hit the export business of the photo-film majors in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The United States International Trade Commission (USITC) instituted the Anti-dumping investigations against Indian exports of Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) Film on 17-5-2001. The concerned Indian companies defended the investigation. However, the USITC, in its final findings in June, 2002 concluded that the domestic PET film industry in United States has been materially injured by reasons of imports of PET film from India at less than fair value. Therefore, US authorities imposed anti-dumping duties on exports of Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) Film, Sheet and Strip from India.

(c) The Anti-dumping investigations were defended by the concerned Indian companies and Government of India had no role in it. However, the Anti-dumping duties imposed on PET film imported into USA would not affect the